GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1187
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2001
UNAUTHORISED GROUND HANDLING AGENCIES AT MUMBAI AIRPORTS
SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether unauthorised ground handling agencies are working at domestic and international terminals of Chhatrapati Shivaji Airport in Mumbai;

(b) if so, whether the Bureau of Civil Aviation Safety (BCAS) is issuing regular passes to these unauthorised ground handling agencies with the nexus of the employees; and

(c) if so, the corrective measures being taken to check such activities particularly in view of the incident of plane hijack at Kathmandu?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN)

(a), (b) and (c) : - Certain private agencies have been entrusted with ground handling functions by airlines under self-handling at Chhatrapati Shivaji International airport in Mumbai. This issue was examined and it was decided that till the new Ground Handling Regulations were notified, those agencies may be permitted to provide these services, which meet the conditions laid down by the Airports Authority of India (AAI). Photo Identity Cards (PICs) are issued only with the approval of PIC Committee consisting of representatives of Airport Director, Airports Authority of India (AAI), Deputy Commissioner of Police, Airport Police Station Unit (APSU) and Regional Director, Commissioner of Security, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) on the recommendation of AAI and Airlines after due scrutiny. The new AAI (General Management, Entry for Ground Handling Services) Regulations, 2000, have been notified. In accordance with these Regulations, an operator or carrier may either carry out ground handling service at an airport by itself or engage the services of
(i) the Airports Authority of India,
(ii) the two national carriers Air India and Indian Airlines and
(iii) any other handling agency licensed by AAI. AAI have initiated the process of selecting private companies for providing ground handling services at international airports.